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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Summer reading program to help Books for Youth

*Participants can donate prize books for foster children*

**INDIANAPOLIS (May 31, 2018)** – Books for Youth is excited to partner again with the Indianapolis Public Library to help give books to hundreds of kids in the local foster care system. Through the library's 2018 summer reading campaign, kids can use their points to select and donate prize books or bring in new and gently used books from home for the Books for Youth program.

"Reading is a huge indicator for success in school and in life," Department of Child Services Director Terry Stigdon said. "Providing books that youth in foster care can call their own will only encourage them to keep reading."

Books for Youth is a Department of Child Services program that works in partnership with the Indianapolis Colts and Cargo Services Inc. to place backpacks filled with 25 age-appropriate books into the hands of all Indiana foster kids. In connection with the Indianapolis Public Library reading program, Books for Youth is hoping to collect more than 5,000 books this summer to help as many as 200 children.

"The library has a strong presence in our community, and we are thrilled with the opportunity to build on this partnership through the summer reading program," Books for Youth organizer Stacy Lozer said.

The library's 2018 summer reading program runs from June 4 through July 28 at all Indianapolis library locations.

**About Indiana DCS:** The Indiana Department of Child Services protects children from abuse and neglect and works to ensure their financial support. *Indiana Child Abuse/Neglect Hotline: 800.800.5556. Child Support Customer Service Kidsline: 800.840.8757 or 317.233.5437. [www.in.gov/dcs](http://www.in.gov/dcs)*



*Protecting our children, families and future*